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Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

LIM, KRISNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2153

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/12/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/632,137

Applicant(s)

CURRY ET AL.

Examiner

Krisna Lim

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

1. Claims 1-30 are still pending for examination.
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. §102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Raghunandan [U.S. Patent No. 6,816,885].
4. Raghunandan anticipates (e.g., see Figs. 1-4) the invention substantially as claimed. Taking claim 1 as an exemplary claim, the reference anticipates a method for formatting electronic mail sent from an e-mail composer and received by a server for receiving and processing inbound e-mail or a server for receiving and processing outbound e-mail, comprising the steps of:
 - a) receiving from the e-mail composer an email message that is addressed to an intended recipient (emails received from a plurality of sender, e.g., see the abstract, col. 4, line 30);
 - b) text-parsing the received e-mail for identifying the e-mail attribute (subject, sender, recipient, keyword, thread in the email header and body) (10 of Fig. 2, the abstract, col. 4 (line 30), col. 10 (lines 17-38));
 - c) formatting the received e-mail message in accordance with predetermined format (the configured format 18, col. 10 (lines 30-47)) corresponding to the identified e-mail attribute (subject, sender, recipient, keyword, thread in the email header and body) (10 of Fig. 2, the abstract, col. 4 (line 30), col. 10 (lines 17-38)); and

d) sending the formatted e-mail message to the intended recipient (e.g., see col. 16 of Fig. 2 and the abstract).

5. As to claim 2, Raghunandan the step of identifying the e-mail attribute comprises the step of identifying the e-mail attribute from a header of the received e-mail (e.g., see 11 of Fig. 2, col. 4 (lines 36-41), col. 10 (lines 17-38)).

6. As to claim 3, Raghunandan anticipates the e-mail attribute includes any one of sender, recipient information in the header (subject, sender, recipient, keyword, thread in the email header and body, 10-11 of Fig. 2, the abstract, col. 4 (lines 30, 36-41), col. 10 (lines 17-38)).

7. As to claim 4, Raghunandan anticipates the step of identifying the e-mail attribute comprises the step of identifying e-mail attribute from a body of the received e-mail (subject, sender, recipient, keyword, thread in the email header and body, 10-11 of Fig. 2, the abstract, col. 4 (lines 30, 36-41), col. 10 (lines 17-38)).

8. As to claim 5, Raghunandan anticipates the e-mail attribute includes a predetermined keyword in the body of the e-mail (subject, sender, recipient, keyword, thread in the email header and body, 10-11 of Fig. 2, the abstract, col. 4 (lines 30, 36-41), col. 10 (lines 17-38)).

9. As to claim 6, Raghunandan anticipates the step of associating a predetermined format (the configured format 18, col. 10 (lines 30-47)) in accordance with an identified e-mail attribute (subject, sender, recipient, keyword, thread in the email header and body, 10-11 of Fig. 2, the abstract, col. 4 (lines 30, 36-41), col. 10 (lines 17-38)).

10. As to claim 7, Raghunandan anticipates the predetermined formats (the

configured format 18, col. 10 (lines 30-47)) include any combination of a plurality of templates (e.g., see 15-21 of Fig. 2, col. 4 (line 49), col. 10 (lines 5-6, 17-38)).

11. As to claim 8, Raghunandan anticipates the plurality of templates (e.g., see 15-21 of Fig. 2, col. 4 (line 49), col. 10 (lines 5-6, 17-38)) include any one of user information and digital signature.

12. As to claim 9, Raghunandan anticipates the step of associating the predetermined format (the configured format 18, col. 10 (lines 30-47)) includes accessing a library compiling predetermined formats and selecting the predetermined format in accordance with e-mail attribute (e.g., see 15-21 of Fig. 2, col. 4 (line 49), col. 10 (lines 5-6, 17-38)).

13. As to claim 10, Raghunandan anticipates the steps of extracting an e-mail portion from the e-mail corresponding to any one of a new message portion, a reply portion, and a forwarded portion (e.g., see col. 9 (line 51) to col. 10 (line 47)).

14. As to claim 11, Raghunandan anticipates formatting the extracted e-mail portion according to an e-mail attribute of the extracted e-mail portion (e.g., see col. 9 (line 51) to col. 10 (line 47)).

15. As to claim 12, Raghunandan anticipates determining an e-mail client associated with the e-mail portion (e.g., see col. 9 (line 51) to col. 10 (line 47)).

16. As to claim 13, Raghunandan anticipates forcing a predetermined format by user override (predetermined classification, col. 4 (lines 36-41), col. 10 (lines 17-38)).

17. Claims 14-30 are similar in scope as of claims 1-13 with the additional feature of **a server** for receiving an email message addressed to an intended recipient and to

send a formatted e-mail message to the intended recipient. This feature is inherent in a conventional email system. Thus, claims 14-30 are rejected for the same reasons set forth above for claims 1-13.

18. Applicant's arguments filed 9/20/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In the remark, applicants argued that:

a) Raghunandan fails to disclose a method, apparatus and computer program product that attends to email sent to an intended recipient, that formats the email according to an attribute identified by text parsing, and that sends the formatted mail to the intended recipient.

b) Raghunandan fails to disclose or suggest "receiving from the e-mail composer an e-mail message that is addressed to an intended recipient; text-parsing the received e-mail for identifying an e-mail attribute; formatting the received e-mail message in accordance with a predetermined format corresponding to the identified e-mail attribute; and sending the formatted e-mail message to the intended recipient," as claim 1 recites.

c) Raghunandan fails to disclose as claim 14 recites "a server configured to receive an e-mail message addressed to an intended recipient and to send a formatted e-mail message to the intended recipient," as claim 14 recites.

d) Raghunandan fails to disclose a server to include "an e-mail formatter for identifying an e-mail attribute by text- parsing the e-mail message addressed to the intended recipient; a template manager for assigning a predetermined format in accordance with the e-mail attribute; and a message assembler for assembling the formatted e-mail message to include at least the content of the e-mail message addressed to the intended recipient in accordance with a specific format designated by the assigned predetermined format," as claim 14 recites.

e) Raghunandan fails to disclose "text-parsing an e-mail addressed to an intended recipient and received from an e-mail composer for identifying an e-mail attribute in the header or body of the e-mail; formatting the e-mail in accordance with a

predetermined format corresponding to the identified e-mail attribute; and sending the formatted e-mail message to the intended recipient," as claim 24 recites.

19. As to paragraph 18 (a) to 18 (e) above, Raghunandan clearly discloses those features as discussed in paragraphs 4-17 above.

20. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krisna Lim whose telephone number is 571-272-3956. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess, can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KI

December 1, 2007



KRISNA LIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER